

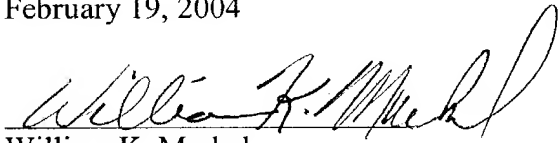
MAR 01 2004

Reply under 37 CFR 1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 1637

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 27373/39055B

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Applicant: Wang <i>et al.</i> |) | I hereby certify that this correspondence is |
| |) | being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service |
| Application No. 09/748,710 |) | with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in |
| |) | an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, |
| Filed: December 22, 2000 |) | Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, |
| |) | Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date |
| For: METHOD FOR GENERATION |) | shown below. |
| OF LONGER cDNA FRAGMENTS |) | |
| FROM SAGE TAGS FOR GENE |) | February 19, 2004 |
| IDENTIFICATION |) | |
| |) | |
| Group Art Unit: 1637 |) |  |
| |) | William K. Merkel |
| Examiner: Joyce Tung |) | |

APPLICANTS' REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In an Office Action mailed November 19, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over van den Berg *et al.*, Nucl. Acids Res. 27:1-III, 1997 in combination with various secondary references, and under §112, second paragraph. In view of the amendments and remarks made herein, reconsideration is respectfully requested. This response is timely filed. Should any fees be deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees, or credit any overpayment, to Marshall, Gerstein and Borun deposit account number 13-2855.

Amendments to the specification. There are no amendments to the specification.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the complete listing of claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.